(e) The programmes aimed at boosting production and productivity of foodgrains and oilseeds include:

(i) The Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Rice Based, Wheat Based and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas, under Macro Management with assistance being provided for various inputs and training of farmers/extension workers as well as supply of critical inputs like seeds, sprayers and water saving devices like sprinklers and drip system.

(ii) Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented, through which breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed and Minikits, infrastructure development, Integrated Pest Managements is being provided. It also includes frontline demonstrations on improved production technologies in oilseeds and pulses, conducted through Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Damage caused by wild elephants in Assam

*342. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the deatails of action taken to prevent the regular movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and villages under Amaribari Forest Range of DFO Tezpur in Sonitpur district, Assam for it causes damage to paddy, land, houses, property as well as people;

(b) whether any compensation has been paid to the affected families and the agencies entrusted with task;

(c) the total forest cover maintained during the last five years as well as the details of forest marked as elephant conservation in Assam; and

(d) the steps taken to push back these wild elephants to the conservation area?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As reported by the Government of Assam, the actions taken to prevent the movement of wild elephants within the habitation of tea gardens and

villages under Amaribari Forest Range, Sonitpur West Division, Assam are at Statement (*See* below).

(b) Yes Sir, the *ex-gratia* has been paid for the loss of human lives. The amount of compensation paid during the last three years are as below:

Year	No.of persons killed	Total amount of ex-gratia paid (Rs.)
2002-2003	5	70,000.00
2003-2004	19	3,80,000.00
2004-2005	9	3,60,000.00

(c) As per the State of Forest Report published biennially by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of Assam during the last five years is as below:

Year	Forest cover (sq.km)
1999	23,688
2001	27,714
2003	27,826

The details of Elephant Reserves in Assam are:

Name of elephant reserve	Area (sq.km)
Chirang-Ripu	2600
Sonitpur	1420
Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong	3270
Dhansiri-Lungding	2740
Dehing Patkai	937

(d) The following steps have been taken to keep away the wild elephants from habitations:

i) Formation of anti-depredation squads

ii) Use of Kunkies (Trained Elephants)

iii) Installation of power fencing

iv) Habitat improvement of elephant reserves

v) Infrastructure development

Statement

Action taken to prevent movement of wild elephants within the tea gardens and villages under Amaribari Forest Range in Sonitpur district, Assam

(i) The Range level and Beat level committees have been formed. The wild elephants are driven out with help of local committees and hired kunkies (Trained Elephants).

(ii) Anti elephant depredation squads have been formed in the tea gardens and revenue villages.

(iii) Temporary camps comprising of forest prescnnel, local villagers have been set up to carry out anti elephant depredation drive.

(iv) Public awareness meetings are organized to mitigate the man elephant conflict.

(v) Wireless facilities have been installed at Divisional Headquaters, all Ranges and Beats for effective communication.

(vi) Plantation of folder species have been taken up for habitat improvement under Central Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant".

Health care for all

*344. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for taking health care to all parts of the country has been fixed;